



United States Senate  
WASHINGTON, DC 20510-0905

BILL NELSON  
FLORIDA

March 3, 2005

The Honorable John Shaw  
Assistant Secretary for Environmental Health and Safety  
Department of Energy (EH-1)  
1000 Independence Ave., SW  
Washington, D.C. 20585

Dear Assistant Secretary Shaw:

Thank you for agreeing to expand the Department of Energy's (DOE) medical screening program to vendors as well as contractors of DOE. The workers of American Beryllium Company (ABC) are very appreciative of your speedy efforts to bring some assistance.

In identifying beryllium vendors and establishing dates of coverage under the Employees Occupational Illness Compensation Act (EEOICPA), DOE uncovered several purchase orders which identify American Beryllium in Tallevast, Florida as a supplier for Rocky Flats and the Oak Ridge Y-12 facility. Is there more research that could be done to identify additional documents related to American Beryllium (or other vendors as appropriate) in DOE vaults, files and federal records centers? Please advise on those opportunities.

If there are further research opportunities, could your Office conduct additional research to search through all of the sources of beryllium related information on American Beryllium (or other vendors as appropriate)?

I understand that EEOICPA requires DOE to produce an annual update of beryllium vendors through December 31, 2002; however, this date should not preclude additional research on vendors which have been identified.

While there is no guarantee more information can or will be found in the DOE archives, my goal is to ensure that all of the information in the DOE universe regarding dates of coverage has been captured and made public. That way we can be assured that no workers who may be eligible for benefits under EEOICPA will fall through the cracks due to a lack of information on dates of coverage.

Thank you for your consideration

Sincerely,

*Bill Nelson*